United Nations

Daily Highlights

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WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Security Council votes unanimously to authorize immediate deployment of 50 United Nations military liaison officers in Yugoslavia.

- Security Council approves expansion of mandate of United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia to include mine clearance and de-mining functions.

- British proposal to convene summit meeting of Security Council to "strengthen role of United Nations in international affairs" is welcomed by Secretary-General.

- Secretary-General receives letter from Libyan Government, requesting special session of General Assembly on international terrorism.

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The Security Council today authorized the proposal of the Secretary-General to dispatch immediately to Yugoslavia a group of 50 military liaison officers to promote maintenance of the cease-fire, agreed to by the parties in Geneva on 23 November 1991.

By unanimous decision, the Council approved the Secretary-General's report of 5 January and deplored the tragic incident on 7 January which caused the death of five members of the European Community Monitoring Mission. It requested all the parties to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of the personnel sent by the United Nations and of the members of the European Community Monitoring Mission.

The Council further repeated its call to all parties to honour the commitments made at Geneva and welcomed the signing, under the auspices of the Secretary-General's Personal Envoy, Mr. Cyrus Vance, of an Implementing Accord at Sarajevo on 2 January concerning modalities for implementing that cease-fire unconditionally.

The Council also reaffirmed the arms embargo, applied in two earlier Council resolutions, and supported the view expressed in the

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Secretary-General's report that the embargo continue to apply to all areas that have been part of Yugoslavia, any decisions on the question of the recognition of the independence of certain republics notwithstanding. (S/23382)

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In a second meeting of the Security Council today, all 15 Council members voted in favour of the Secretary-General's proposal to expand the mandate of the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) to include training in mine clearance and the initiation of a mine clearance programme among the Cambodian people.

By its unanimous decision, the Council expressed concern that the existence of mines and minefields in Cambodia posed a serious hazard to the safety of people in Cambodia, as well as an obstacle to the smooth and timely implementation of the Agreements on the Comprehensive Political Settlement, including the early return of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons.

The Council further reiterated its call to all the Cambodian parties to comply scrupulously with the cease-fire signed on 23 October in Paris and to lend all necessary assistance to UNAMIC.

The Secretary-General had stated, in an addendum to his report setting out the financial and administrative implications of the expansion of UNAMIC, that the force would need an additional 1,090 military personnel at the additional cost of $24.7 million. He recommended that the amount be considered an expense to the Organization to be borne by Member States. (S/23383)

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A United Nations spokesman confirmed today that Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had received a message from British Prime Minister John Major proposing the convening on 30 January of a summit meeting of the 15 Member States of the Security Council.

The spokesman said the Secretary-General had welcomed the British proposal to invite Heads of States and government to attend the special session of the Council by the end of the month.

The British Prime Minister said in his message to the Secretary-General that the convening of such a meeting would provide the opportunity to reaffirm the United Nations' central role "in strengthening the international order and the challenges it faces in the aftermath of the cold war and demonstrate, at the highest level, support for the responsibilities of the United Nations and the Security Council as regards peace-making, peace-keeping and preventive diplomacy".

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The Secretary-General received yesterday a letter from the Libyan Government, delivered to him by the Libyan Permanent Representative to the United Nations, requesting a special session of the General Assembly on the topic of international terrorism.

The Secretary-General's Spokesman told correspondents that consultations were underway on the possibility of such a session. He said that since the Assembly was currently in recess, there was a possibility of reopening the 46th session for a discussion on the issue of terrorism, as well as other items.

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